

University Hospital

New Orleans La

June 2nd 1864

Dear Mother,

I *recieved* your very kind letter of May 11th last week and was very glad to hear from you. The reason I did not answer it immediately was because I have been very busy taking care of the wounded, there is 120 beds in the ward that I am in and 75 of them are wounded and the rest are sick, I am one of the head nurses. I have the medicine to attend to and give to one *have* of them, it kept me pretty busy for a few days when they first came for they were in a very bad condition, five of them died being conveyed from the steamboats [CO] up here about a quarter of a mile, they were all very bad wounds that came to this hospital, but are doing first rate now.

I got a letter from Harrison last week, he only wrote a few lines and sent some old letters from you and one from sister Sue, Lute and Ellen. I was very glad to get them if they were old I would answer them now but I have not time but will as soon as I am. I concluded by what Lute wrote that she sent me here picture but could not "see it." Harrison must have kept it I think. I wish Sue would send me hers and also Ellen and Alice and Henry and then I shall have the whole of them. I hope they will send them as soon as they can, I have got almost entirely well sò but I don't think that I should be able to stand it on a march or to lay out nights on the ground, I think I should be as bad as ever, my lungs don't feel quite right yet. I feel as well every other way as I ever did.

Uncle Sam went away from here yesterday, he has been put into the Invalid Corps, he has got to be examined again and I think he will stand a good chance to get a discharge. He told me all about how he acted while he as at home, he told me that he could not remember but little of what was going on in L-ville for he was not sober any of the time, he seemed to feel very bad about indeed, as he always does after he has a spree, he says that he never will drink another drop, but he has said that *to* many times and broken his word. I don't think he has drank a glass of liquor since he came back.

Well it is getting almost 10 o'clock and I must write to Harrison to night, so I will bid you good night. Give my love to all.

From your Aff. Son,

John F. Brand

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